Delay in resolving pipeline controversy between Bangalore and Mangalore

1825. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been long delay in resolving pipeline Vs. railway line controversy between Bangalore and Mangalore for carrying products as reported in the 'Times of India' of 7th February, 1989; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take an early decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) No proposal has been received by the Ministry of Railways regarding a pipeline linking Mangalore to Bangalore. Hence, the question of delay in resolving pipeline *Vs* rail line controversy does not arise.

Indian ships in custody of Tamil militants of Sri Lanka

1826. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two ships 'Nitya Nanak' and 'Nitya Ram' belonging to Maini Shipping Corporation disappeared on June 21, 1985 and the CBI has now concluded that all those who were on the ships have lost their lives and if so, what are the basis for this conclusion;

(b) whether their insurance claims have been paid and if so, how much was paid in each case and if not what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Lloyds and Sri Lankan Broadcasting Corporation reported on 31-7-85 that these ships were first captured by Tamil militants and then were being held by the Sri Lankan Navy and that our people were alive and kept as 'unlisted' captives by Sri Lankan authorities and if so, what are the facts; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government to retrieve the ships and to secure the freedom of our men?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Two ships 'Nitya Nanak' and 'Nitya Ram' belonging to Maini Shipping Corporation disappeared around 21-6-1985. CBI which enquired into the role played by the shipowners in maintaining the ships in a satisfactory condition and in arranging for search operations has concluded, *inter alia*, that there is no direct evidence of the death of those on board.

(b) An amount of Rs 42,65,233/- being death compensation and loss of personal effects has been paid to next of kin of 45 crew members as per statement enclosed. [*See* Appendix CI, Annexure No. 91]

(c) and (d) The investigations have not produced any evidence to indicate that the two vessels had been seized by Tamil Militants or by Sri Lankan authorities.

Grants to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

1827. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA : Will the Minister OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of recurring and non-recurring grants made to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan